

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Formable stitched together precursor fabric made from weft and warp flat tapes of fiber-reinforced polymer on a weft insertion-stitching machine. The weft tape is supplied from a rotatable or stationary package that is pulled by a tension compensator that is driven in synchronism with an indexing carriage that wraps the tapes around continuously moving weft hooks. A constant tension on the tape is maintained. The weft tapes are stitched to the warp tapes, all in plane tapes having edges that abut substantially throughout the fabric.